

### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 3 of the application as follows:

Wood products, specifically wood commonly used in construction including 1" x 4" x 12" pine and composite wood materials, such as plywood, were treated with different concentrations of sodium silicate - 40% ( $\text{Na}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2$ ) also known as water glass to test the hypothesis that water glass would make these products flame retardant. Water glass is readily available, is relatively cheap and virtually non-toxic. It can be applied to wood at industrial wood-preserving operations and can be easily applied to the homeowner. The sodium silicate will enter the voids in the wood, and harden into glass. The sodium silicate will separate the wood fibers from one another, and not allow burning.